

In the claims:

1. In a radiotelephonic device operable in a radiotelephonic communication system, an improvement of user interface apparatus for facilitating selectable call screening of a terminating call placed by a calling station and delivered to the radiotelephonic device, said user interface apparatus comprising:

a calling-group listing formed of a first-group set of dialing numbers, the first-group set of dialing numbers corresponding to a speed-dial set of dialing numbers selectably used at the radiotelephonic device pursuant to a speed dialing procedure;

a comparator adapted to receive indications of the terminating call delivered to the radiotelephonic device together with an originating dialing number associated therewith and to said calling-group listing, said comparator for comparing the originating dialing number with the first-group set of dialing numbers and for determining whether the originating dialing number corresponds with the first-group set of dialing numbers and for determining whether the originating dialing number matches any of the first-group set of dialing numbers; and

a call acceptor adapted to receive indications of determinations made by said comparator, said call acceptor for selectably accepting the terminating call when said comparator determines the originating dialing number to match any of the first-group set of dialing numbers.

2. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising an annunciator adapted to receive indications of call acceptance by said call acceptor, said annunciator for selectably annunciating the terminating call in a selected manner when the terminating call is accepted by said call acceptor.

3. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein said annunciator comprises an aural annunciator, and wherein said aural annunciator selectably annunciates the terminating call with an aural sequence of sounds.

5 4. The apparatus of claim 3 wherein the aural sequence of sounds is annunciated by said aural annunciator when said comparator determines the originating dialing number to match any of the first group set of dialing numbers of said calling group listing.

10 5. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the radiotelephonic device comprises a removable memory element and wherein said calling-group listing is formed at the removable memory element.

6. The apparatus of claim 5 wherein the speed-dial set of dialing numbers is further formed at the removable memory element.

15 7. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a calling-group listing creator adapted to receive indications of the speed-dial set of dialing numbers, said calling-group listing creator for creating said calling-group listing.

20 8. The apparatus of claim 7 wherein the radiotelephonic device comprises a memory element and wherein said calling-group listing, once created by said calling-group listing creator, is stored by said calling group listing creator at the memory element.

9. The apparatus of claim 7 wherein the radiotelephonic device further comprises a user actuator, said calling-group listing creator further adapted to receive selected input actuations generated by the user actuator and wherein said calling-group listing creator operates to create said calling-group listing responsive to reception of the selected input actuations.

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10. The apparatus of claim 7 wherein said calling group listing creator creates said calling-group listing by copying the speed-dial set of dialing numbers.

11. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the originating dialing number comprises a sequence of digits, wherein each dialing number of said calling-group listing also comprises a sequence of digits and wherein said comparator compares values of the digits forming the originating dialing number with corresponding digits of each dialing number of said calling-group listing.

12. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the radiotelephonic device further comprises a user display and wherein, upon acceptance of the terminating call by said call acceptor, values representative of the originating dialing number, are caused by said call acceptor to be displayed on the user display.

13. The apparatus of claim 12 wherein said calling-group listing further comprises an alpha-numeric identifier associated with each of the dialing numbers of the first-group set forming said calling-group listing and wherein the values representative of the originating dialing

number comprises the alphanumeric identifier associated with the dialing number determined by said comparator to match the originating dialing number.

14. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said call acceptor is further adapted to receive
5 indications of determinations of said comparator that the originating dialing number fails to match any of the first-group set of dialing numbers, said call acceptor further selectably for generating a call-reject command.

15. In a method for communicating in a radiotelephonic communication system
10 having a radiotelephone, an improvement of a method for facilitating selectable call screening of a terminating call placed by a calling station and delivered to the radiotelephone, said method comprising:

forming a calling-group listing comprised of a first-group set of dialing numbers,
the first-group set of dialing numbers corresponding to a speed-dial set of dialing numbers
15 selectably used at the radiotelephone pursuant to a speed dialing procedure;

detecting delivery of a call request to terminate a call at the radiotelephone, the
call request including an originating dialing number at which the call is originated;

comparing the originating dialing number with the first-group set of dialing
numbers to determine whether the originating dialing number matches any of the first-group set
20 of dialing numbers; and

accepting the call request when determination is made during said operation of
comparing that the originating dialing number matches any of the first-group set of dialing
numbers.

16. The method of claim 15 further comprising the operation of annunciating the call request.

17. The method of claim 15 wherein the speed-dial set of dialing numbers is stored at the radiotelephone and wherein said operation of forming the calling-group listing comprises accessing indications of the speed-dial set of dialing numbers.

18. The method of claim 17 wherein said operation of forming further comprises copying the speed-dial set of dialing numbers.

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19. The method of claim 15 wherein the calling-group listing formed during said operation of forming is stored at a removable memory element of the radiotelephone.

20. The method of claim 18 wherein the radiotelephone further comprises a user actuation and wherein said operation of copying is performed responsive to selected actuation of the user actuator.

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